

28. (Canceled).

29. (Currently Amended) A speech recognition system comprising:

- an input for receiving an input signal indicative of a spoken utterance that is indicative of at least one speech element;
- a first processing unit coupled to said input operative for processing the input signal to derive from a speech recognition dictionary at least one speech model associated to a given speech element that constitutes a potential match to the at least one speech element, and wherein said first processing unit is operative for generating a speaker specific speech model derived on the basis of the input signal, the speaker specific speech model being indicative of the acoustic characteristics of the at least one speech element;
- a second processing unit coupled to said first processing unit for generating, using a predefined weighting constraint, a modified version of the at least one speech model on the basis of the input signal;
- a third processing unit coupled to said second processing unit for processing the input signal on the basis of the modified version of the at least one speech model to generate a recognition result indicative of whether the modified version of the at least one speech model constitutes a match to the input signal;
- an output for releasing a signal indicative of the recognition result; and  
wherein said modified version of the at least one speech model is indicative of a complex speech model associated to the given speech element, and ~~A speech recognition system as defined in claim 28, wherein said second processing unit comprises:~~

- coupling member for allowing data exchange between the first processing unit and

the second processing unit, said coupling member being suitable for receiving the speaker specific speech model derived from the input signal;

- a model group associated to the given speech element, said model group comprising a plurality of speech models, each speech model of said plurality of speech models being a different representation of the given speech element, said model group comprising two sets of speech models namely a first set having speech models of a first type and a second set having speech models of a second type, each speech model of a first type in said first set being associated to a speech model of the second type in the second set;

- a functional unit coupled to the coupling member for:

a) processing the speaker specific speech model and the model group to generate a hybrid speech model associated to the given speech element, said hybrid speech model being a weighted combination of speech models of the first type in said plurality of speech models effected on the basis of the speaker specific speech model;

b) processing the hybrid speech model to generate a the complex speech model associated to the given speech element, said complex speech model being a combination of speech models of the second type in said plurality of speech models;

- an output coupling member for allowing data exchange between the second processing unit and the third processing unit, said coupling member being suitable for releasing a signal indicative of the complex speech model associated to the given speech element.